

#### Washington City Council

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www.washingtoncity.org

### Minutes Workshop Meeting February 11, 2014

Present: Mayor Kenneth F. Neilson, Councilmen Garth Nisson, Thad Seegmiller, Kress Staheli, Ronald Truman, Jeff Turek, City Attorney Jeff Starkey, City Manager Roger Carter, City Recorder Danice Bulloch, Deputy Recorder Tara Pentz, Public Works Director Mike Shaw, Finance Director Brian Brown, Leisure Services Director Barry Blake, Police Chief Jim Keith, Leisure Service Director Barry Blake, Audience: Myron Lee, Jim Eardley, Ted Hickman, Dana Meier, Rick Snyder, Brandon Boshell, Kevin Young, Lindsay Pugmire, Wesley Pugmire, Braden Frank, Ryley Duckworth, Dustyn Shaffer, John Crosier, Mike England, Nicole Laub

Meeting commenced at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Neilson welcomed the Boy Scouts to the meeting.

### 1. Approval of the Agenda.

Councilman Turek made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Seegmiller seconded the motion; which passed with the following role call vote:

Councilman Nisson Aye
Councilman Seegmiller Aye
Councilman Turek Aye

## 2. Review of the board audit report.

None

## 3 Presentation for Kids On Ice. John Crosier / Mike England

Mike England, John Crosier, Nicole Laub Directors of Kids On Ice.

Mike England explained Kids on Ice has been around for 11 years. The dream is to bring an ice skating rink to Southern Utah. There was a temporary ice rink in St. George, which was very successful, but only lasted 2 years because the planning was not in place. They are looking for municipal partners for a new rink as well as looking for land.

\* Councilman Truman arrived at 6:05 P.M.

John Crosier stated they are having trouble getting donations because they do not currently have any land for the location of the rink.

Mr. England reviewed the proposal for a year round facility to Southern Utah, which would be double sided with ice as well as turf. The proposed structure would be approximately 72,000 square feet.

Mr. Crosier stated their plan projects there would be 9 to 12 million dollars in revenue.

\*Councilman Staheli arrived at 6:09 P.M.

Councilman Truman asked why the temporary facility did not last very long in St. George.

Nicole Laub stated the first year was only 3 months, and the second year was only 2 months due to the partners splitting up. The nice thing about this facility is there would not only be ice skating, but a year round facility with turf. If the facility were to be located in Washington City there would be huge discounts if the participants were members of the Washington City Community Center or Washington City Residents.

Mr. Crosier stated the ongoing continuance of tournaments would be phenomenal.

Mr. England reviewed the possibilities for usage for the Senior Games. They continued the review of the facility.

Councilman Truman asked where they are anticipating locating the facility.

Mr. Crosier stated they currently do not have a location, but they were encouraged by Mayor Neilson, to meet with the City Council.

Councilman Turek clarified they are interested in the Washington City property located at Buena Vista and Main Street.

Mr. Crosier stated they would like a conditional agreement, that if they raise enough money they could place the facility on Washington City land with a lease agreement.

Councilman Turek asked if the financing was in place.

Mr. Crosier stated they would need a couple of years to raise enough funds, but if a sale were to take place, the property would not be need approximately 7 to 7.5 acres and the cost would be 6.5 to 10 million dollars. In order to get the funding necessary, they must be able to show their donors where the facility is going to be located.

Councilman Truman commented even if the facility were to be located in Washington City, we still do not have the hotels, to receive the benefits of the revenue being proposed.

Mr. Crosier explained they wants to be able to give scholarships to kids who cannot afford it, which is why he is pushing for the facility as a non-profit.

Councilman Truman asked what the proposed scholarship would be.

Mr. Crosier stated the financial statements are included in the documents, along with the anticipated scholarships.

Mr. England reviewed the financial information with Council.

Councilman Staheli asked if they are asking Washington City to assist with the debt services.

Mr. Crosier stated they are only proposing Washington City participate in the land.

Councilman Staheli asked if there were any other properties available in Washington City.

City Manager Carter stated the only other piece of property owned by Washington City the size tey are needing is the radio tower site, which is 7 acres.

Councilman Staheli asked if they have talked with SITLA.

Mr. Crosier stated they have not talked to them because they have been told they want cash down.

Councilman Nisson asked how many year lease would they be interested in.

Mr. England explained they are looking for a long term proposal.

Councilman Truman stated he likes what is being proposed, and that the money is being set aside for scholarships.

Councilman Seegmiller asked what the assumptions would be on the lease for the property.

Mr. Crosier stated they are hoping for a long term, low cost lease in order to give the money back in scholarships.

Mr. England stated they have included their contact information for the Council if they have additional questions.

Council members thanked Kids On Ice for their presentation.

4. Presentation and discussion regarding a proposed Local Transportation Funding Proposal, under consideration by the 2014 Utah State Legislature, that would impose a new gasoline tax to fund County and City transportation needs. County Commissioner James Eardley, Myron Lee & Ron Whitehead

County Commissioner James Eardley reviewed the proposed Local Transportation Funding Proposal. This was presented last year at the State Legislature. They would like to see resolutions from the Municipalities if they are in favor of this proposal.

Councilman Seegmiller stated part of the problem is the tax has not been inflation adjusted. Has there been discussion on how it would be addressed.

Commissioner Eardley stated they have proposed a 3% tax, which would fluctuate with the cost of fuel rather than a fixed rate.

Councilman Truman commented when the price of fuel goes up, so does the price of everything.

Mr. Eardley agreed he was correct. However, this is a necessity because of the increased costs of maintenance of the Cities and County roads.

Councilman Truman stated he feels raising the tax should be a last measure.

Myron Lee with Five County Association of Governments explained they have not had a review of gas tax since the 90's. Maintaining roads is essential to their longevity.

Councilman Seegmiller asked how the money would be distributed.

Commissioner Eardley reviewed the funding distribution with Council. If the request comes before Legislature, the County and Cities need to be prepared to say yes or no.

City Manager Carter stated the anticipation is this item will not even hit the floor this year, due to it being an election year.

Commissioner Eardley stated he is not trying to sell the tax. It is his responsibility to give the information, and get Council input.

Councilman Turek stated it is very challenging to maintain the roads. It is something Council struggles with each year when reviewing the budget.

Commissioner Eardley stated they would like the consensus of the Council as to how they feel about the tax increase.

Councilman Staheli asked if the amount of money would be enough to help get ahead on some of our expenses.

Public Works Director Mike Shaw explained the operating expenses as well as the maintenance costs of our streets. He would easily be able to spend the additional funding on maintenance needing to be done.

Councilman Seegmiller commented anyone who runs tires on the road should be participating in the maintenance. However, he feels diesel and natural gas should be included in the taxes as well.

Public Works Director Mike Shaw stated there are many areas (Cities, Towns and Counties) charging a road maintenance fee on their utility bill.

Councilman Staheli asked if Staff feels the money has been distributed fairly in the past.

Public Works Director Shaw stated they have a committee for the MPO, which votes upon the importance of funding based on need. Since the beginning of the organization, they have never had a vote, which was not unanimous.

Councilman Turek commented we all dislike taxes, but the money has to come from somewhere.

The majority of Council would be in favor of the tax.

Commissioner Eardley stated he would send a Resolution over to be placed on a regular agenda for approval.

# 5. Presentation of the Green Springs Telegraph Intersection Study. Mike Shaw, Public Works Director / Sunrise Engineering

Public Works Director Mike Shaw stated he is here with Sunrise Engineering who has been working on a study for the Green Springs Intersection Study. There are several scenarios for Council to review, however, it is not a decision making study, but rather for input.

Dustyn Schaffer stated it has been a pleasure working with Washington City. The study has been in the process for about two years.

Rick Snyder reviewed the presentation for Green Springs Telegraph Intersection Study with the Council.

Council discussed the different options proposed.

Public Works Director Shaw reviewed the next steps with Council, which would then lead to the public hearings with residents. Also, the medians could be something, which could be done fairly quickly, which would be an immediate help to traffic flow.

Councilman Turek commented one of the most important things is to get our business community involved as soon as possible.

Public Works Director Shaw stated he would like to have a one on one meeting with each individual property owner and business, and then we could have a meeting with all of them together.

Councilman Turek stated he would like to have a business meeting with all of the together.

Councilman Staheli asked if we change the access points and place meetings as temporary relief, is

there a way to start getting the word out.

Public Works Director Shaw stated normally when using City funds, we do not have public input, but with this issue, it is critical to get the businesses involved. Which would be the reason for having one on one meetings prior to the work beginning.

Councilman Staheli asked if an interchange would be better at 300 East or Main Street.

Public Works Director Shaw stated what it would come down to what would be in the environmental study.

Councilman Staheli asked how we would pay for improvements.

Public Works Director Shaw explained using MPO Funding.

# 6. Discussion and review of the proposed design for a cemetery expansion. Barry Blake, Leisure Services Director.

Leisure Services Director Barry Blake reviewed the proposed design for the cemetery expansion with Council.

Councilman Turek clarified the type of fencing, which will be placed to separate the soccer field and the cemetery.

Leisure Services Director Blake explained type of ornamental fencing, which will be used.

Councilman Turek stated he would like to see a tree line carried along the boundary of the cemetery.

Leisure Services Director Blake reviewed the landscaping plan with Council.

Councilman Turek stated he would like to see trees planted in the interior of the cemetery.

Councilman Staheli asked if the long range future of the cemetery would be to move into the existing ball fields.

Leisure Services Director Blake stated they do not have an official plan for that far into the future, but he does see the cemetery eventually moving that direction once there are other ball fields in place.

City Manager Carter stated we plan to have the project put out to bid and completed by May.

#### 7. Adjournment

Councilman Turek made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Truman seconded the motion; which passed with the following role call vote:

Councilman Nisson	Aye
Councilman Seegmiller	Aye
Councilman Staheli	Aye
Councilman Truman	Aye
Councilman Turek	Aye

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 P.M.

Passed and approved this 26th day of February 2014.

Seal of Washington City

Washington City

Attest by:

Danice B. Bulloch, CMC

City Recorder

Kenneth F. Neilson, Mayor

